

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Before the paragraph beginning at page 1, line 1, please add the following new paragraphs:

**BACKGROUND AND SUMMARY**

B1 Technical Field.

Before the paragraph beginning at page 1, line 9, please add the following new paragraph:

B2 Description.

Before the paragraph beginning at page 3, line 20, please add the following new paragraph:

**BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS**

Before the paragraph beginning at page <sup>3</sup>2, line 30, please add the following new paragraph:

**B4 DETAILED DESCRIPTION**

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 4, line 17, with the following rewritten paragraph:

In EP784 333 these problems are partially overcome by applying using a doctor blade method using a gel comprising metal alkoxides.

B6 Example:

The following sol-gel was made:

B5  
200 gram colloidal silica (~~Ludox~~<sup>®</sup>) (LUDOX<sup>®</sup>) was mixed with  
200 gram methyltrimethoxysilane ( $\text{CH}_3\text{Si}(\text{O}-\text{CH}_3)_3$ ) (MTMS)  
18 gram acetic acid and  
5 gram tetraethylorthosilicate (TEOS).

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Please replace the heading on the first line of page 7 with the following  
replacement heading.

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B4  
CLAIMS We Claim:

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